

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend paragraph [0015] as follows:

[0015] In short, embodiments of the present invention modify a network protocol stack used in firmware to take advantage of network protocol offload engines provided in hardware. By transferring the burden of executing network protocols such, as user datagram protocol (“UDP”), from execution by a CPU/processor to other hardware, the burden placed on the CPU/processor to transfer data over a network is ~~alieviated~~ alleviated, freeing CPU/processor bandwidth for other tasks and accelerating data transfers over the network. Embodiments of the present invention further include firmware applications/drivers interfacing with a transmission control protocol/internet protocol (“TCP/IP”) offload engine and a remote direct memory access (“RDMA”) offload engine to increase network transmission speeds and free up CPU bandwidth. These and other embodiments are described in detail below.